

20. (New) The optical waveguide module according to Claim 16, wherein said auxiliary connection member is bonded to a circumference of the output end portion of said optical waveguide chip by way of an adhesive layer having a thickness of 20 μm or less.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Title was objected to; Claims 16-19 as well as Claims 5-10 and 13 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter; Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,257,769, hereinafter Watanabe) and Claims 11, 12, 14 and 15 were rejected as being unpatentable over Watanabe.

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the identification of allowable subject matter.

The Title has been amended as requested.

In light of the indication of Claim 5 and Claim 13 as containing allowable subject matter, Claims 1-4, 14 and 15 were canceled, and Claims 5 and 13 have been drafted in independent form, incorporating the features of the claims on which Claims 5 and 13 were dependent thereon.

In amending Claims 5 and 13, the original language was kept, except for the addition of the term "portion", as indicated in the amended claims. This amendment is believed to be non-substantive, and needed to be consistent with U.S. claim drafting practice.

Claim 16 was also amended to clarify the invention, without substantively changing the content of Claim 16.

A new dependent claim, Claim 20, was added to Claim 16, where the dependent feature in Claim 16 is supported by the specification so thus no new matter is added. (See e.g., specification, page 9, line 22 for example.)

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted the invention defined by Claims 5-13, and 16-20, as amended, patentably define over the asserted prior art. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance, and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE TITLE

[OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE MODULE]

OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE MODULE OPTICALLY CONNECTED WITH AN
OPTICAL FIBER

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice or disclaimer Claims 1-4, 14 and 15.

5. (Amended) [The optical waveguide module according to claim 2,] An optical waveguide module comprising
an optical waveguide component having an auxiliary connection member connected
to an end portion of an optical waveguide chip, and
at least one array member for attaching an end of at least one optical fiber to a
connection member to be connected to said auxiliary connection member, wherein
said optical waveguide component and said array member are connected to each other
via said auxiliary connection member and said connection member,
a presser member is disposed to press at least one of said optical waveguide chip and
said optical fiber in a direction of connection, and
an optical waveguide exposed from the end of said optical waveguide chip is in direct
contact with a core of said optical fiber exposed from an end of said array member, wherein
said array member allows a region around the core including the core of said optical
fiber to project from an end face of said connection member.

13. (Amended) [The optical waveguide module according to claim 2,] An optical waveguide module comprising
an optical waveguide component having an auxiliary connection member connected to an end portion of an optical waveguide chip, and
at least one array member for attaching an end of at least one optical fiber to a connection member to be connected to said auxiliary connection member, wherein
said optical waveguide component and said array member are connected to each other via said auxiliary connection member and said connection member,
a presser member is disposed to press at least one of said optical waveguide chip and said optical fiber in a direction of connection, and
an optical waveguide exposed from the end of said optical waveguide chip is in direct contact with a core of said optical fiber exposed from an end of said array member, wherein
said optical waveguide component is formed so as to allow a region around said optical waveguide including said optical waveguide to project from the other part.

16. (Amended) An optical waveguide module comprising
a first array member with a plurality of optical fibers having ends attached to a first connection member,
a second array member with at least one optical fiber having an end attached to a second connection member, and
an optical waveguide chip having an input and output end face and an optical waveguide for multiplexing a plurality of optical signals having different wavelengths inputted from a plurality of input ports to output a resulting optical signal from at least one output port,
said optical waveguide module wherein

said first array member is bonded with an adhesive to said input end face of said optical waveguide chip,

 an auxiliary connection member is attached to [said] an output end [face] portion of said optical waveguide chip,

 said second connection member is connected to said auxiliary connection member,

 said second array member is coupled to said output end face of said optical waveguide chip via said second connection member and said auxiliary connection member,

 a presser member for pressing said auxiliary connection member and said second array member in a direction of connection is disposed across said auxiliary connection member and said second array member, and

 a core of said optical waveguide exposed from said output end face of said optical waveguide chip is in direct contact with a core of said optical fiber exposed from an end of said second array member.

20. (New).